

May 16, 2013 Lincoln County FireSafe Council Meeting Minutes

Attendees; Dawain Burgess, TFF RFD; Lisa Osborn, Three River RD; Steve Lauer, Libby RFD; Ed Levert, Lincoln Co; Matt Bowser, Yaak Valley Forest Council, Katie Andreesen, Libby RD; Kirby Maki, Libby Supt. of Schools.

Round Robin:

Maki- Kirby discussed the recent failed school levy and the repercussions that will come from that.

Lauer- Worked with 5th graders on fire preparedness. Continuing assessments. Eight to nine residents requested assessments at the recent conference.

Osborn- Three Rivers District has burned over 1300 acres this Spring: Grouse Lake, Callahan, Pine Cr., Bull Lake Hwy, and Rocky Pines. District looking at sending a fire crew to Helena for assignment.

Note that the Fireman Rodeo will be on June 15 at the River Bend.

Andreesen- Libby District has burned 100 acres this Spring at McGilvrey, Bristol and Smoke Creek. All fire seasonal will be on this Monday although they will be down three positions because of hiring difficulties. Working on organizing fire prevention presentations.

Bowser- Matt discussed Kootenai Stakeholder Coalition efforts on silvicultural protocols he has been working on. Attended the Lincoln County Grizzly Bear DNA meeting in Sandpoint. The study has been completed, but final results will probably not be officially announced until January or February of 2014.

Burgess- Fortine has had 7 fires this Spring. Fireman training has been ongoing. Going through formal process to be able to do practice fire on abandoned house.

Levert- I discussed recent fuel reduction proposals in the Troy area including Stimson property. I will be meeting in the near future with the commissioners to discuss possible spending of Title III funds.

The proposed 2013 CWPP was reviewed at the weekly commissioner meeting in Eureka on the 15th and will be reviewed in Libby on the 22nd. The commissioners will hopefully approve the document on the 22nd.

Old Business

Wildfire Community Preparedness Workshop- We first reviewed evaluations from the audience(Most all favorable). I went over the costs and revenues although not all bills have been received. As soon as we receive all the bills we will settle up with FireSafe Montana.

FireWise Trailer- The trailer is now residing at the Em Kayan fire station. A meeting has been scheduled by Lisa to meet on May 28 to discuss the remaining work, which includes the decals on the outside and the cabinet needs for storage. Lisa will be sending out an announcement on this meeting. Katie, Dawain and Lisa and hopefully Steve will be meeting and anyone else who is interested.

New Business

Wildfire Awareness Week- June 3-9 is the official week. We decided that I would ask the commissioners to give an official recognition of the week. We also decided that Lisa would provide FireWise tips that she and Katie could provide to the reader boards in Libby and Troy(Eureka doesn't have one). Katie would work with Eric Leigh and the chamber of commerce. The tip would be given on the board with a reference for more information available at our FireWise website. These tips could be the tip of the day, week or whatever.

Once I received the tips I would make arrangements to run the tips in our newspapers over the summer. Lisa would provide them to Dennis Dickerson for posting on our web site.

Lisa said that there is a lot of information that we can use on the FireSafe Montana website.

July 18 was selected as the date of the Troy Bus Tour/BBQ. More to follow on that.

Next Meeting – June 20

Ed Levert, Chair

